

Dear Committee Members,

As the situation around Bullseye and Uroboros has unfolded, I have been repeatedly shocked at how lax the DEQ has been when regulating hazardous air pollution in Portland, and across Oregon. I have lived in SE Portland for 25 years, and I've always believed that state agencies were working to ensure that the environment we live in was safe and clean. I was naive. Even now, after all the attention this issue has received, Bullseye and Uroboros continue to emit hazardous pollutants into the air breathed by thousands of Oregonians. The DEQ lacks either the will or the ability to act.

Oregon Associated Industries claims that if polluters are required to clean up their facilities, limiting emissions of various pollutants to levels which meet a the standard of safety the public expects, they will be forced to close and good jobs will be lost. I disagree. It is possible for industries to operate in a cleaner manner, and improving air quality will make Portland a more enticing place for other companies to locate. History has shown that when industries clean up their messes, the economies of their communities improve.

This is 2016. It is a disgrace that a city like Portland should rank near the bottom of the dirtiest cities in America. It is time for change.

Thank you,

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